

Books about Justice



TITLE	AUTHOR	LOCATION
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Whale Talk

Chris Crutcher

YA CRU

TJ's got everything going for him- he's smart, good-looking, and very athletic. The only problem is that this adopted, bi-racial high school senior despises the jocks that make up the teams in organized sports. He refuses to play on any of his high school sports teams, until his English teacher asks him to personally recruit students for a swim team. This is TJ's big opportunity to give all of the regular kids at school a chance.

The House of Scorpion

Nancy Farmer

YA FAR

Matteo Alacran lives in a futuristic society where science is far more developed than today. Matteo is no ordinary boy; he is a clone of the emperor of Opium, the city in highest control. In his society, clones are highly scorned and treated as animals, but Matteo's situation is unique because the real Matteo has ordered that the young boy be lavished with all the luxuries of any well-to-do human. The old Matteo is a cruel and brutal ruler, and his intentions for treating his young clone so well certainly cannot be noble.

Fade to Black

Alex Flinn

YA FIC FLI

This chilling story of a student assault is told from three different perspectives: the now hospitalized HIV positive boy who was attacked; the ignorant, afraid, prejudiced boy who attacked; and the down-syndrome girl who saw the attack.

America

E.R. Frank

YA FRA

When an orphan boy named America is five-years-old, the welfare state decides to send him to visit to his drug addicted mother. America disappears for eleven years after the visit, and he is only rediscovered when he is hospitalized for attempting suicide.

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Dark Angel

David Klass

YA FIC KLA

Seventeen-year-old Jeff Hastings has the perfect life, the perfect girlfriend, and the most perfectly kept family secret around. Everyone thinks that Jeff is an only child, but the family secret is out when Jeff's older brother, Troy, is released from prison early from a life sentence for first degree murder.

Monster

Walter Dean Myers

YA MYE

Monster is a chilling story about sixteen-year-old Steve who is on trial for murder. The story is written half as a diary and half as a screenplay. Steve struggles with a sense of identity as he sits uselessly in his cell between courtroom sessions and is dubbed the "monster" by the prosecuting attorney.

Give a Boy a Gun

Todd Strasser

YA STR

This is an all too familiar story of two boys who seek revenge against the world by walking into a student dance with guns and opening fire. The story is told using a variety of voices as different kids who saw the shooting share their stories.

The Book Thief

Markus Zusak

YA FIC ZUS

Liesel is a young German orphan growing up during World War II. She is sent to live in a foster home in a working class neighborhood shortly after she steals her first book. Liesel, though a thief, is a remarkable girl with a passion for reading and an uncanny ability to make unusual friends.

Compiled by Beth Blood 2006

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